REMARKS

Presently claims 1-3 are pending in the application. Claims 4-24 have been cancelled. Independent claim 1 has been amended. Support for the amendments to claim 1 can be found, for example, at page 16 of the specification. Therefore no new matter has been added to the application by the foregoing amendments.

Claim Rejection –35 USC §102

The Examiner has rejected claims 1-9 and 12-27 under 35 U.S.C. §102 (b) as being anticipated by U.S. Patent No. 7,055,166 to Logan ("Logan"). Applicant respectfully traverses this rejection.

The Examiner argues that Logan discloses a receiver for receiving a broadcast programming signal and a database memory that stores a segment identification signal which acts as a type of fingerprint. The Examiner further argues that Logan discloses a splicing processor; the processor removes an indicated program segment and replaces it with a video signal.

Independent claim 1 recites, in relevant part:

> ...comparing, in a sliding window of initial length L, a segment of the input video signal to a portion of stored fingerprint data;

> expanding the sliding window to the approximate length of the fingerprint data when the segment of the input video signal ... matches the portion of stored fingerprint data;

> comparing the segment of the input video signal within the expanded sliding window with the stored fingerprint data; and

> generating an output video signal comprising the input video signal with the segment within the expanded sliding window replaced with a replacement portion.

"A claim is anticipated only if each and every element as set forth in the claim is found, either expressly or inherently described, in a single prior art reference." (MPEP section 2131)

Logan teaches a method for editing a broadcast signal by matching a segment of a video signal to fingerprint data. Logan does not disclose matching a segment of input video to stored fingerprint data and then matching a larger, or expanded, segment of the video input if the segment matches the stored fingerprint data. Logan also does not disclose the concept of a sliding window that is expanded to cover a larger segment of the input video if the segment matches the stored fingerprint data. Accordingly, Logan does not disclose, "expanding the sliding window to the approximate length of the fingerprint data when the segment of the input video signal … matches the portion of stored fingerprint data…," as recited in independent claim 1. Therefore, Logan does not anticipate claim 1.

Although not necessarily agreeing with the Examiner, to further prosecution of the application, claims 4-9 and 12-27 have been cancelled. Accordingly, the Examiner's rejection with respect to those claims is moot.

Dependent claims 2 and 3 are allowable at least by their dependency on independent claim 1. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Examiner's anticipation rejection are respectfully requested.

Claim Rejections –35 USC §103

The Examiner has rejected claims 10 and 11 under 35 U.S.C. 103(a) as being unpatenable over Logan in view of U.S. Patent No. 6,100,941 to Dimitrova. Although not necessarily agreeing with the Examiner, to further the prosecution of the application, claims 10 and 11 have been cancelled. Accordingly, the Examiner's rejection to those claims is moot. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Examiner's §103(a) rejection are respectfully requested.

Conclusion

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicants respectfully submit that the Examiner's rejections have been overcome, and that the application, including claim 1-3, is in condition for allowance. Reconsideration and withdrawal of the Examiner's rejections and an early Notice of Allowance are respectfully requested.

Respectfully submitted,

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